

**INTEGRATED TRAINING AREA MANAGEMENT**  
**ITAM Learning Module**  
**Sustainable Range Awareness**

**Lesson # 2: ITAM Sustainable Range Awareness (SRA) Program Objectives**

An SRA Plan for the ITAM Program should provide a means to develop and distribute SRA materials. This Module identifies options used by Army installations to mitigate training impacts prior to deployment by educating land users on practices that minimize damage to installation training lands.

By completing this Learning Module, students will accomplish the following:

1. Identify tasks that support the three objectives of the ITAM SRA Component
2. Identify types of information to provide to soldiers
3. Identify materials
4. Identify the audiences for SRA information

**SRA Objective 1:**  
**Educate Land Users of**  
**Stewardship Responsibilities**

**SRA Objective 3:**  
**Conduct Operational Awareness**  
**for Environmental Professionals**



**SRA Objective 2:**  
**Improve Public Relations through SRA**

## **ITAM SRA Objectives and Tasks**

---

SRA is the ITAM component that will be most visible to units and soldiers in the field. As stated in Lesson 1, the SRA component has three objectives. Together the objectives and tasks provide the overall guidance for the management and execution of this component of the ITAM Program. Command emphasis is critical to the success of the SRA Program. Ultimately, the SRA component should demonstrate to military trainers how reducing their maneuver damage could increase their combat effectiveness and reduce training costs. The objectives and their associated tasks follow:

***Objective 1.*** Educate land users of their environmental stewardship responsibilities. Successful management of training lands requires land users to have a clear understanding of the installation's mission(s).

Tasks:

- **Develop educational materials.** An installation SRA Program includes some general but primarily installation-specific multi-media materials, created locally at the installation level or centrally for Army-wide distribution
- **Distribute SRA Materials.** Materials will generally be distributed at three levels as follows:
  - Those products designated for individual soldiers
  - Those products designated for unit leaders
  - Those products designated for non-military land users

Education and training will be designed overall to foster environmental stewardship and should focus on individual and unit responsibilities. In addition, education and training will focus on preventive measures units can take to preclude unnecessary maneuver damage. Specifically, it may include the following:

1. Proper driving techniques
2. POL pollution prevention
3. Basic rules for environmental protection
4. Refuse and trash handling to include recycling and resource recovery
5. Integrating Restricted Use Area and Off Limits area markings into tactical equivalents (i.e., Restricted Use Areas being referred to as mine fields with cleared lands; Off Limits areas as being contaminated with persistent chemical agent; etc.)
6. Area police
7. Wildlife protection (including endangered species and their habitat)
8. Field sanitation
9. Pertinent topical issues
10. Problems identified by all coordinating activities, such as fire prevention and suppression
11. Range Fires (reporting and handling of situations)
12. Off Limits & Restricted Use Areas
13. Methods by which environmentally sound procedures can also be tactically advantageous
14. Procedures for leaving the training areas in better condition than before the unit used it

The following are types of educational materials and training that can be developed in support of Objective 1:

**Training Briefings** - Designed for specific target audiences. Prior to field training, units should conduct sustainable range awareness briefings to inform soldiers of avoidable maneuver damage. Some unnecessary and avoidable damage items that may be included in these briefings follow:

- Damage to facilities or infrastructure
- Damage in wetlands
- Damage to archeological or historic sites
- Damage in an off-limits or restricted use area
- Damage to fences
- Excavations not backfilled or requiring bladework prior to re-seeding
- Trash or wire left downrange
- Damage to, or relocation of, signs

**Environmental Sensitivity Maps and Overlays** - Designed for soldiers in deploying units. Information on maps can indicate off-limits areas, restricted use areas, approved dig sites (approved by Range control), maneuver areas, and other environmentally sensitive areas.

**Seibert Stakes** - Seibert Stakes are used to mark off-limited areas and are marked with thermal and alternating red and yellow reflective tapes. Off limits areas are marked with fencing and Seibert Stakes. Personnel and vehicles should remain clear of these areas.

**Soldier's/Leader's Handbook** - Designed for individual soldiers/leaders. The Soldier's/Leader's Handbook should include a summary of restrictions on training to preserve the quality of training lands as

well as a map showing areas with special environmental considerations. The Handbooks are developed and produced for distribution to soldiers and leaders and other military personnel who train on each post.

**Soldier's Pocket Field Guide** - Designed for individual soldiers. The Soldier's Pocket Field Guide is specifically designed for use at each post. The pocket field guide is laminated and summarizes restrictions. The pocket field guides are developed and produced for distribution to soldiers and other military personnel who train on the post.

**Video** - Designed to be shown to all soldiers in-processing, at pre-command courses, and at Range Control safety briefings. The video can focus on topics such as the prevention of maneuver damage.

**Posters** - Designed for display in places of high visibility where soldiers train and where civilians work on post.

**Displays** - Designed for specific audiences. Displays can be standard 8' x 10' (freestanding floor display) or 4' x 5' (free standing tabletop display) and will be set up at conferences.

**NATO Environmental Training Working Group SRA Symbols** - Designed for possible use by U.S. Army installations. The intent is that these symbols can be used on signs, as map icons, or on other SRA products as appropriate. These are not intended to be mandatory but instead provide you with another tool in support of your ITAM program.

**Objective 2.** Improve public relations through SRA by communicating success at sustaining mission activities while preserving Army land. The installation PAO must be involved.

Tasks:

- Establish and maintain credibility with the public. Opening or maintaining lines of communication with local governmental agencies. Outside the local government, retired military organizations, concerned citizen groups, and others may be included.
- Promote quick and accurate responses to public questions and concerns.

Installation PAOs have standard operating procedures for providing information to and dealing with the public. They provide the official message and it is in the SRA staff's best interest to work with and use their expertise. The following are types of PAO activities that can be used to promote communication and understanding in the community:

- Hold regular public meetings to discuss issues
- Convene Restoration Advisory Boards (civilian members of community meet on installation to discuss issues such as cleanup, noise, etc)
- Provide Fact Sheets
- Prepare articles for local newspapers

**Objective 3.** Conduct operational awareness for environmental professionals.

Tasks:

- Convey installation mission, training and testing objectives and methods to environmental professionals
- Conduct formal training, as needed
- Provide hands-on orientation of weapons systems and observe training and testing activities

- Demonstrate that the Army is a good steward and is sustaining lands in an environmentally sound manner

Information regarding Objective 3 is provided in formal courses and by participating in training and testing exercises. Some examples follow:

**Training: Understanding the U.S. Army** - Included in many formal training courses, (e.g., Intern Leadership Development Course, DA Inspector General Course), this training is designed to provide an understanding of the Army. It is an introductory course, including, but not limited to, the role of the Army, mission, organization, functions of the Army Staff and Principal Members, Field Operating Agencies of the Army Staff, Major Army Commands, and civilian leadership in the Army. DA Pamphlet 10-1, Organization of the United States Army is also available with this basic information.

**Training: Introduction to the U.S. Army** - Developed at the U.S. Army Environmental Center (USAEC) for the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) Program, this training is an introductory course on the history, customs, organization, training, tactics, and "running" of the United States Army. It also includes an introduction to the critical laws, regulations, and procedures in both the natural and cultural resource media areas and an overview of the National Environmental Policy Act and information on USAEC's Range XXI Program. (Contact USAEC for space availability 410-436-1591.

**Military Exercises** - Many installations provide opportunities for environmental professionals to participate as observers for military exercises (i.e. Northern Edge, Roving Sands) to learn about military operations and provide input to prevent maneuver damage.

**ITAM Learning Module: Army Organizations** - Developed for the ITAM Program, this training module provides information on Army Tactical Units and Equipment.